

1195-1937

STANDISH WITH LANGTREE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

OF THE  
**Medical Officer of Health**

FOR THE YEAR

**1937**





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# STANDISH-WITH-LANGTREE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



## *Chairman :*

S. MASON, Esq.

## *Vice-Chairman :*

J. BARON, Esq.

## *Councillors :*

MRS. ADA BOTTOMLEY, J.P., C.C.	T. KENYON, Esq.
J. T. BAXTER, Esq.	P. MACNAMARA, Esq.
R. FINNEY, Esq.	A. E. NAYLOR, Esq.
G. HILTON, Esq.	B. PARK, Esq., J.P.
C. C. HYATT, Esq.	J. SPEAKMAN, Esq.

## *Clerk :*

D. CHISHOLM, Esq.

## *Staff Public Health Department :*

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

R. J. ORMSBY, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.  
Fellow of the Society of Medical Officers of Health.

### *Sanitary Inspector :*

ALLEN COUPE, M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B.

### *Surveyor :*

JOHN HOLLAND.

### *Water Inspector :*

JOHN WILLIAM HEATON.



STANDISH,

June, 1938.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Standish-with-Langtree Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. BOTTOMLEY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Eighth Annual Report on the Health and sanitary conditions prevailing in the Urban District of Standish.

I thank you for your keen interest and help which you have always given in matters pertaining to the Public Health.

I also thank Mr. Coupe, the Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. Holland, for their valuable assistance during the year.

I have, Mrs. Bottomley and Gentlemen,

The honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

R. J. ORMSBY, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Fellow of the Society of Medical Officers of Health.

Population (Census 1921) .....	7,294			
Population (Census 1931) .....	7,337			
Estimated Population (1936) .....	7,964			
Estimated Population (1937) .....	8,169			
Acreage of Township .....	3,266 acres			
Density of Population per acre .....	2·5			
Sum represented by a penny rate .....	£134 0s. 0d.			
Rateable Value .....	£35,413			
<b>VITAL STATISTICS.</b>				
	Total.      M.      F.			
Live Births: {	Legitimate .....	129	61	68
	Illegitimate .....	3	1	2
	Total .....	132	62	70
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	16·1			
Still Births .....	6			
Deaths .....	82	40	42	
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10·0			
Deaths from Puerperal Causes : Puerperal Sepis.....	0			
Other Puerperal Causes ...	0			
Death rate of Infants under one year of age :				
All Infants per 1000 live births.....	53			
Deaths from Cancer .....	8			
Deaths from Measles (all ages) .....	—			
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	—			
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .....	1			

**BIRTHS.**—132 births were registered in 1937, 62 males and 70 females, compared with 126 in 1936.

The birth rate was 16.0 per 1,000 of the estimated population, compared with 15.8 in 1936, and 14.9 for the whole of England and Wales.

Mean of 5 years, 1932-1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.8
Year 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.8
„ 1937	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.1
Increase in 1937 on 5 years' average	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.3
Increase on 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.3

**DEATHS.** 82 deaths occurred in 1937, 40 males and 42 females, compared with 76 in 1936, 90 in 1935, 76 in 1934, 73 in 1933, 85 in 1932, and 105 in 1931.

The death rate was 10.0, compared with 9.5 for 1936 and 12.4 for the whole of England and Wales.

Mean of 5 years, 1932-1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.4
Year 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.5
„ 1937	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.0
Decrease in 1937 on 5 years' average	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.4
Increase on 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.5

The causes of deaths were:—

Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Senility	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Digestive Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Diarrhœa, under 2 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Liver Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Debility	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other Defined Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Eight deaths occurred from Cancer in 1937, 5 males and 3 females, compared with 7 during 1936 and 15 during 1935.

Mean of 5 years, 1932-1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.27
Year 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.87
„ 1937	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.97
Decrease in 1936 on 5 years' average, 1931-1935	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.30
Increase on previous year	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.10

The ages and sexes of the diseased and sites of the Cancer were as follows:—

M. 78.	M. 53.	...	...	...	...	Stomach.
M. 55.	M. 72.	...	...	...	...	Tongue.
M. 72.	F. 61.	...	...	...	...	Bowels
F. 61.	...	...	...	...	...	Uterus.
F. 51.	...	...	...	...	...	Liver.

**INFANTILE DEATHS.**—7 deaths of infants under 1 year of age occurred in 1937, 4 males and 3 females, compared with 7 in 1936.

The death rate was 54 compared with 58 for the whole of England and Wales.



The causes of death were:—

Broncho-pneumonia—6 months, 11 months, 6 month.

Convulsions—3 months.

Acute Bronchitis—1 month.

Malformation—3 weeks.

Congenital Debility—6 days.

Mean of 5 years, 1932-1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Year 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
„ 1937	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Decrease on 5 years' average	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Decrease on 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**—33 cases occurred in 1937 compared with 49 in 1936.

5 cases of Scarlet Fever.

7 cases of Diphtheria.

16 cases of Pneumonia.

5 cases of Erysipelas.

The diphtheria cases were mild in type. No deaths occurred from diphtheria.

The age groups of the various diseases were as follows:—

Under	YEARS.										65 &
1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over
1	1	1	—	1	14	3	—	3	3	3	3

**TUBERCULOSIS.**—7 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified, 5 males, aged 17, 18, 35, 45, and 76, and 2 females, aged 12 and 21 years.

The Non-respiratory type of Tuberculosis occurred in 2 females and 2 males, the age groups being:—

3 years—1 male.

5-10 years—1 female, 1 male.

20-25 years—1 female.

Three deaths occurred from the Respiratory type of Tuberculosis—M. 9, M. 36, F. 36.

Death rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System :—

Mean of 5 years, 1932-1936	...	...	...	...	...	0.36
Year 1936	...	...	...	...	...	0.37
„ 1937	...	...	...	...	...	0.36
Increase or decrease in 1937 on						
5 years' average, 1932-1936						Nil
Decrease on 1936	...	...	...	...	...	0.01

**MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.**—262 inspections of cowsheds and dairies have been made during the year. Two more farms have been added to the list of Accredited Milk Producers, making a total of 9 in all. Several other farmers have modernized their cowsheds and conditions all round now assure the production of cleaner milk.

**SEDIMENT TESTS.**—30 tests have been taken, and with the exception of two cases the results were satisfactory.

**SCHOOL MILK SAMPLES.**—24 samples have been taken for Tuberculosis Examination. Of these one was returned positive.

**T.B. MILK SAMPLES.**—32 samples have been taken. 6 of these were returned positive, and were reported to the County Council to be dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925.

**MEAT AND FOODS.**—There are 6 licenced slaughterhouses in the district. During the past year, 286 visits were made. Lime-washing was carried out quarterly. Carcases were examined immediately after slaughter, and meat and other foods were also examined when exposed for sale. Legal proceedings were instituted against a vendor for having deposited for sale unsound meat. He was fined £15 and costs.

The following carcasses were examined :—

Heifers	Cows	Pigs	Sheep and Lambs	Calves
107	136	278	865	42

The following were surrendered as unfit for food of man :—

Entire carcasses (T.B.):—2 cows, 6 pigs.

Parts of carcasses or organs :—97.

The following foods were also surrendered as unfit for food of man :—

866 lbs. of apricot jam ; 43 lbs. of mincemeat ; 216 lbs. of red cabbage ; 511 lbs. of gooseberry jam ; 80 lbs. of tea ; 25 lbs. of prunes ; 24 lbs. of rice ; 24 bottles of pickles ; 30 tins of fruit.

In two cases the food was found on inspection, and the vendors were warned that on recurrence of the same, they would be reported to the Council.

A report has been received from the Superintendent of the Lancashire Constabulary in connection with the samples taken in this District during 1937, under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928. From this report it appears that 27 samples of Milk were taken and 17 other samples of different foodstuffs. The County Analyst returned these samples as genuine except a sample of marmalade which was deficient 3.5% insoluble solids. This was only an informal sample and thus no action was taken against the vendor.

### **FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & BAKEHOUSES**

44 inspections have been made, and 2 notices served. The conditions were satisfactory, limewashing having been carried out regularly.

**NUISANCES & SANITARY DEFECTS.**— Systematic inspection of the district has been carried out. 472 nuisances and defects were attended to during the year, and as a result of 462 informal notices and 5 statutory notices, 467 were abated.

**NEW BUILDINGS & HOUSING.**—Plans for the erection of 88 houses were approved during the year. These were all built by private enterprise. At the time of making this report the Council have 180 houses in the course of erection on three building sites, namely:—Avondale Site, Standish Lower Ground Site, and Almond Brook Road Site. The figures for the last ten years are as follows:—

1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
—	—	—	—	22	18	32	42	46	—

By private enterprise with State assistance:—

16	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	14	—	—	22	18	32	42	46	—

By private enterprise without State assistance:—

11	12	19	22	45	79	94	98	96	88
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—TOTALS—

27	26	19	22	67	97	126	140	142	88
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**HOUSING ACT, 1936.**—During the past year, 33 houses have been relieved of overcrowding, either by voluntary removals of tenants or by the Council's scheme of offering vacated Council houses to overcrowded families. The number of premises still overcrowded total 195, and the number of families dwelling therein is 267. A re-survey of the district is at present taking place, but no new cases of overcrowding have, as yet, arisen.

**REFUSE DISPOSAL & COLLECTION.**—This has received a great deal of attention insomuch as it has been necessary to renew one vehicle and to consider renewing the other. Owing to the rapid growth of the district it has been necessary to



have both motor vehicles constantly engaged on the work. Another step has been taken in improving the Sanitary conditions of the district by the conversion of 54 privies to water closets.

The returns for refuse collections are as follows:—

	Ashpits	Bins	Pails	Cess-pools	Loads	Tons. Total
Bedford	262	62,316	1,062	3	2,162	3,243
Karrier	769	11,821	920	10	1,276	2,914
Totals	1,031	74,137	1,982	13	3,438	6,157

**SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL.**—Constant attention has been given to flushing and cleansing of all sewers and manholes. During the year Messrs. C. Lomax & Sons, of Manchester, undertook to survey the sewerage of the district and a report has been accepted by the Council. The estimated cost for the sewerage of the district being approximately £45,000. Plans and specification are being prepared for the carrying out of this work.

**SHOPS ACT, 1934.**—A feature of the Shops Act administration has been the issue of pamphlets setting out the main provisions of the Acts and local Closing Orders. Reports on each shop have been forwarded to the County Council, having regard to washing facilities, lighting, ventilation, sanitary conveniences, and the employment of young persons.

**RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT.**—During the first week in November, Rat Week was observed by the Council. Free rat poison was given and advice offered on application. A penny a tail was offered for each rat tail submitted. During the week a film showing the destructive tendencies of rats, was shown at the local cinema. Several persons availed themselves of the opportunity to receive rat poison, and on the whole the scheme tended to further the public's efforts towards the extermination of rats and mice.

**WATER.**—The standard of water has risen during the year. 11 samples have been taken for bacteriological examination, and 4 samples for chemical analysis. The results in the case of the bacteriological samples were good, but the results in the chemical analysis were not up to standard. The P.H. value was low and this necessitated the installation of soda-ash plant at the works. Plans and specifications are being prepared for the laying of a new water main to Standish Lower Ground, and a much better supply will then be ensured.



## SUMMARY.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1937, for the Urban District of  
Standish-with-Langtree Urban District Council.

1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF  
THE AREA.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	3,266
Population—Census, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	7,337
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, 1937						8,169
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	1,706
End of 1937 according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	2,292
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	£35,413
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£134 0 0

Social conditions, including the chief industries carried on in the area.—Coal mining and agriculture.

Extent of unemployment.—About 10% of insurable population; in addition there are many partially unemployed. The unemployment chiefly consists of colliery workers.

The influence of any particular occupation on public health.—Nil.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Particulars of any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which has received or required comment.—None.

Any causes of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in the area during the year.—None.

Any conditions of occupation or environment which appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health.—None.

Any *evidence* statistical or otherwise, that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults—None.

## 2.—GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health.—ROBERT JORDAN ORMSBY.

Remuneration (including bonus, if any) as M.O.H. at 31st December, 1937, £80 per annum.

Is he a whole or part-time officer of the local Authority?—Part-time. Any other public appointments held by him?—Yes. Medical Officer Wigan Rural District; District M.O.H. and Public Vaccinator. Is he in private practice?—Yes.

Sanitary Inspector(s) :—ALLEN COUPE.

Remuneration (including Bonus) as S.I. at 31st December, 1937—£270.

Whole or part-time.—Whole.

Other appointments held (if any).—Food Inspector, Petroleum Act Inspector, Housing Inspector, Shops Inspector.

Veterinary Inspector (any appointment or arrangement by the Local Authority).—None.

Ambulance facilities for :—(a) Infectious cases.—Wigan Corporation Motor.

(b) Non-infectious and accident cases.—Wigan Corporation Police Motor Ambulance.

(c) Maternity patients.—Wigan Corporation Police Motor Ambulance.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

Nature of arrangements made by the local authority in the district for—

(a) General nursing.

None.

(b) For infectious diseases. e.g., Measles, etc.

None.



Total amount of financial assistance given by local authority to voluntary associations.      Wigan Infirmary £10.      Christie Cancer Hospital, Manchester £10.      Standish District Nursing Association £10.

Clinics and Treatment Centres :—

Is there in your district :—

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre (Consultation and treatment).

Give day and time open.

Anti-natal Clinic.

Day Nursery.

School Clinic.

Orthopædic Clinic.

Artificial Light Clinic.

Hospitals in the district—

(a) Public

(a) Voluntary

Is there any Institutional provision in your area for :—

Unmarried mothers.—No.

Illegitimate infants.—No.

Homeless children.—No.

Health Education :—

Any action taken by the local authority during the year in regard to the publication of information or dissemination of knowledge relating to health or disease? (e.g., Health Week, Special Lectures, etc.)  
County Council health posters and pamphlets distributed.

New Legislation (if any) and date of operation—Local Acts : None.

Wesleyan Schools. High Street, Standish.

Every Wednesday 2-5 p.m.

No.

No.

None.

None.

None.

None.

None.

### 3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply—

Authority from which supply is obtained.

Source of supply.

Is supply of district satisfactory?

Constant or intermittent.

Approximate number of dwelling-houses with piped supplies (public and private)

Possibilities of contamination.

Action taken in respect of any form of contamination.

Any liability to plumbo-solvent action.

If piped supply, state if water has been controlled by bacteriological examination.

Approximate number of dwelling-houses supplied from wells, springs, streams, etc.

Have these waters been analysed during the year? If so state result.

Any insufficiency, and where.

Nature of extensions (if any) during the year.

Drainage and Sewerage—

Sewage disposal works, method of treatment.

Liverpool Corporation.

Angelezark Reservoir.

(a) In quality.—Yes. (b) In quantity.—Yes. Constant.

(a) Direct from mains.—2225.

(b) By stand pipe.—Nil.

Nil.

Water filtered and chlorinated.

No.

If so, No. of examinations, 11. Results: Good.

Chemical analysis—Results: 4 samples. Fair. P.H. value found to be very low, thus necessitating installation of soda-ash plant at works.

One.

No.

None.

New Soda-ash plant erected at Water Works.

Settlement, land irrigation and filtration.

Any extension or improvement during the year with regard to works or sewerage system.	Extension of sewers for new streets and properties. Plans, specifications and quantities being prepared for extension of sewerage system.
Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system, and reason therefor.	Only houses not within reasonable distance of Council's sewers.
Action taken--Drain testing, flushing, etc.	All new drains examined and tested with smoke machine.

Rivers and Streams--

Action taken to check the pollution of streams.	Ribble Joint Committee inspections.
Sources and nature of pollution.	None.

Have any new works been established (such as artificial silk works, cheese manufactories, etc.), and is there any resultant river pollution?

No.

Closet Accommodation at end of 1937:--

Privy middens :--No. of middens, 140, No. of closets attached to these middens, 235.

Does this system still exist in populous and closely built centres?--Yes.

No. of pail closets, 39. No. of dry ashpits (excluding middens), 12. No. of movable ashbins. 1,805.

No. of houses on water carriage system, 1,781. No. of fresh water closets. 1,781. No. of waste water closets.--None.

Conversions--

No. of privy closets	During 1937	During 5 Years 1932-1936
To fresh w.c.'s .....	54	...
No. of pail closets		
To fresh w.c.'s .....	—	...
No. of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles .....	54	...
		890

Is there any definite policy at the present time for abolishing privy middens and pail closets?	Yes, the Council are encouraging conversions of privy closets with a view to their ultimate abolition.
Does the Council contribute towards the cost of conversion?—Yes. If so, how much?—£2 per w.c. installed.	
What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for new property?—Fresh water closets.	
Public Cleansing—	
(a) The method of collecting dry house refuse.	Direct labour with motor vehicles.
(b) The method of collecting refuse from earth closets and privies.	By motor vehicle.
(c) The method of disposing of dry house refuse.	Tipping and covering. Paper burned before burying.
(d) The method of disposing of refuse from earth closets and privies.	Tipping and covering.
(e) The method of cleansing cesspools.	By direct labour with special tank.
(f) Arrangements for the disposal of cesspool contents.	Tipping and covering.
If a destructor provided state situation.	None.
State whether public cleansing is carried out by sanitary authority, contract, or occupiers of houses?	By Sanitary Authority.
Any extension or improvement during the year in the arrangements?	New 8 cubic yard refuse collection vehicle purchased.
Are motor vehicles used?	Yes.
If privy middens exist, are they emptied by day or night?	By day.
Does the Sanitary Inspector supervise the scavenging?	Yes.



Sanitary Inspections during 1937.—

Number of premises visited

Defects or nuisances.

Number of notices served.

Legal proceedings.

1531.

Number discovered, 472. Number abated, 472.

Informal, 467. Statutory, 5.

Number, none.

Shops— Particulars of any action taken under provisions of Shops Act, 1934, relating to :

- (a) Ventilation of shops
- (b) Temperature of shops
- (c) Sanitary conveniences

} Periodically inspected. Informal notices sent to owners concerning any violation of the Act.

Smoke Abatement—

Any special action taken with regard to smoke abatement?—Periodical observations taken.

Number of factory and works chimneys in the district?—Seven.

Number of observations?—15.

Number of legal proceedings taken and result.—Nil.

Particulars of any co-operative action with industry. None.

What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour?—Two minutes.

Swimming Baths and Pools.—None in district.

Eradication of bed bugs—Particulars of action taken during 1936 :

No. of houses found to be infested	....	(a) Council houses, Nil.	(b) Other houses, 1.
No. of houses disinfested	....	(a) Council houses, Nil.	(b) Other houses, 1.

Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs: Fumigation with Fumoids and spraying with insecticide.

Methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses: Fumigation with Fumoids and spraying with Insecticide.

Is work of disinfection carried out by local authority or by a contractor? Local Sanitary Authority.

Measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or reinfestation after cleansing: Periodical visits by Sanitary Inspector.

Schools—

(a) Sanitary condition.

(b) Water supply.

Offensive Trades.

Workshops and Workplaces.

Common Lodging-houses.

Houses let in Lodgings

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.

Underground Sleeping Rooms.

Canal Boats.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928 :—

Number of premises in district on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold, nil.

Number of inspections, 12 inspections of rag carts. Number of samples taken, nil. Results, nil.

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1937.—

Extensive conversions to water carriage system have been carried out. Improvement of mechanical filtration plant at Waterworks. Preparation of plans and specification for extension of sewerage system and improvement of sewage works. Erection of public convenience. Separate system of drainage adopted for present and future housing schemes.

Chief Sanitary Requirements of District.—

Demolition of remaining insanitary property. Provision for overcrowding. Completion of sewage schemes. Private street works.

Fair.

Constant. Satisfactory? Yes.

Number, nil.

No on Register, 25.  
What is their condition?—Good.

Number on register, nil.

None.

None.

Any need for regulations?—No.

Number inspected, 4

Number of infringement of Acts. nil.

## 4.—HOUSING.

### (a) STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the Year :—

- (a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) )—88
  - (i) By the Local Authority.—0.
  - (ii) By other Local Authorities.—0.
  - (iii) By other bodies or persons.—88.
- (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :
  - (i) By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above)—0.
  - (ii) By other bodies or persons (included under (a) (iii) above)—0

### 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).—369.
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.—532.
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.—81.
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.—120.
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.—81.
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of these referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.—18.

### 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.—355.

### 3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.—5.
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
  - (a) By owners.—5.
  - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners.—0.

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.  
—57.
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
  - (a) By owners.—5.
  - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners.—0.

C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.—0.
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.—0.

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.—0.
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.—0.

### 4. HOUSING ACT, 1936.—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING :—

- (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.—195.
- (ii) Number of families dwelling therein.—267.
- (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein.—889.



- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.—3.
- (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.—17.
- (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases.—71.

#### (b) HOUSING CONDITIONS.

1. General observations as to housing conditions, including the standard of houses, the prevalent types, age and approximate numbers and general soundness of the several types—any information as to prevailing forms of defects and of prevailing bad conditions resulting from overcrowding.—General housing conditions fair. Cottages mainly consisting of two bedrooms and two living-rooms. Extensive building of better class residential type is being maintained.

Approximate number of back-to-back houses in the district.—4.

2. Sufficiency of supply of houses.—

- (a) Extent of shortage, if any: Insufficiency of cheap houses which is the main cause of overcrowding in the district. During the past 5 years the Council have erected 217 houses.
- (b) Particulars of any housing scheme in hand or contemplated: Three housing schemes are in progress, comprising of 116 at Avondale, 50 at Standish Lower Ground, and 14 at Almond Brook Road. These are for persons residing in slum clearance property. Land has been purchased for the erection of 40 bungalows for old age pensioners.
- (c) Information as to any important changes in population during the period under review or anticipated in the future: Private building enterprise causing increase in population.
- (d) Any special difficulties in the way of providing suitable sites for new houses.—None.

- 3 Overcrowding.

- (a) Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the local authority which have been relieved during 1937.—None.
- (b) Number of cases of overcrowding which have been relieved in the course of slum clearance operations.—9.
- (c) Particulars of any case in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.—None.

4. Fitness of houses.

- (a) Difficulties found in action under the Public Health Acts or under the Housing Acts.—None.
- (b) No. of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply.—None.
- (c) No. of houses which have no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation :—None.

## 5.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. Milk Supply.—Action taken with regard to—

The administration of The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, The Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and The Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.—Farms have been inspected frequently and a general improvement has resulted. Several farms have modernised their cowsheds, installed electric light, and provided sterilizers.

The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936—

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during 1937 in respect of—

“Tuberculin Tested” milk—  
 (i) Bottling.—None. (ii) Distribution.—None.  
 “Accredited” milk—  
 (i) Bottling.—None. (ii) Distribution.—None.

No. of licences issued in respect of “Pasteurised” milk:

Pasteurising plants.—None. Retail distributors.—3.

Any refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licences for graded milk, with reasons for the refusal or revocation.—No.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—  
 Are they periodically inspected?

Yes. How often? Every 4 weeks.

What is their condition?—Good.

Has any owner undertaken (voluntarily) structural alterations or improvements to farm buildings, e.g., re-modelling of cowsheds (Give brief particulars).—Yes. Four farmers have modernized their cowsheds and dairies and obtained Accredited (Producer) licences, making a total of 9 for the district.

Any information as to the cost of the work, actual or estimated: £650, estimated cost.

Farms.

No. of dairy farms.—30. Approximate number of cows in the district.—600.

Cowkeepers.

No. of cowkeepers (including the dairy farms).—30.

No. of inspections during the year.—262.

Dairymen or purveyors of milk (other than cow-keepers).

No. of dairymen or milk purveyors (other than cow-keepers).—6.

If a Veterinary Inspector has been appointed give (a) the approximate number of cows inspected and (b) the number found to be suffering from tuberculosis.

(a) 93. (b) 6.

Action taken by local authority as to—

(i) Tuberculous milk.

No. of samples submitted for biological test.

32. Result: Positive, 6; Negative, 26.

(ii) Bacteriological examinations.

None.

(iii) Sediment tests.

No. satisfactory, 28. No. unsatisfactory, 2.

2. Meat and other foods.—Observations on—

(a) Action taken with regard to meat and other foods, including inspection of meat, slaughterhouses, shops, stalls and vehicles, and places where food is prepared.—A regular and systematic inspection of slaughterhouses, meat shops, and all other places where food is prepared, is carried out with satisfactory results.

Number of legal proceedings and result.—One. Fined £15 and costs, (Unsound Meat).

(b) Inspection of meat—

Animal	Total number of killings	Number of carcases inspected	Number of Condemnations			
			Entire carcasses		Parts of carcasses or organs	
			For tuberculosis	For diseases other than tuberculosis	For tuberculosis	For diseases other than tuberculosis
Cattle (other than cows)....	107	107	—	—	23	—
Cows ....	136	136	2	—	42	—
Calves ....	42	42	—	—	3	—
Sheep and Lambs ....	865	865	—	—	—	4
Pigs ....	278	278	6	—	29	—

Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis: Sheep and Lambs—0.4%.

Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis: Cattle (excluding cows)—21.5% ; Cows—30.8% ; Calves—7.1% ; Pigs—10.4%.

(c) Has a public slaughterhouse been provided —No.

Private slaughterhouses :—No. registered, none. No. licensed 6.

Are they conducted satisfactorily —Yes.

(d) If a meat marketing scheme under Part III of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, is in force, give particulars with regard to action taken thereunder.—No.

(e) Food poisoning (including suspected cases).—Action taken (if any).—None.

(f) Bakehouses.—Number, 6. Condition, quite satisfactory.

3. Adulteration, etc.—

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

None.



4. Chemical and bacteriological examination of food (excluding milk)—None.
5. Nutrition—  
Steps taken to increase knowledge of public on the subject and to bring to their minds the importance of adequate nutrition, especially for children, by means of lectures, films, etc.—None.
6. Shell-fish (Molluscan).—None.

## 6.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Hospital accommodation provided or available:—

For smallpox.—By agreement with Blackburn Corporation.

Number of beds.—1 bed reserved.

Where situate.—Blackburn.

Is the hospital used by “agreement” or “arrangement”? An agreement. 1 bed reserved, other accommodation if available.

Are any retaining fees paid? Yes. If so, what sum or sums? £20 per annum.

For other infectious diseases.—Wigan Corporation. Number of beds.—Not stipulated.

Where situate. —Whelley, nr. Wigan.

Is the hospital used by “agreement” or “arrangement”? By agreement. Beds not stipulated. Admission subject to beds being available.

Are any retaining fees paid—No.

Or, if a joint hospital, is the district a constituent authority?—No.

Are patients required to contribute towards cost of treatment —No.

Cost of hospital treatment for infectious diseases. The total cost to the local authority for two recent years.—Year ended December 1936, £120; Year ended December 1937, £135.



Observations as to sufficiency or otherwise of the available accommodation.—Accommodation sufficient.

Has action been taken to shorten the period of stay of uncomplicated cases of scarlet fever?—No.

Or to replace hospital treatment in suitable instances by nursing and supervision at home?—No.

Have any new methods been adopted for the selection of individual cases for which admission to hospital is most imperative?—No.

Or any new decision as to the admission of cases of diseases such as measles or whooping cough?—No.

Notes on the supply and prompt use of—

Diphtheria anti-toxin.—Available immediately on application.

Are supplies readily available?—Yes.

If so, where kept?—M.O.H.'s. Residence.

Are any other vaccines or sera supplied free to medical practitioners?—No.

Any observed relation between various forms of streptococcal infection (scarlet fever, sore throat occurring without a rash, and puerperal fever.—No.

Influenza.—Observations on any special inquiries undertaken in connection with epidemics.—None.

Pneumonia, malaria, and dysentery.—Experience in regard to these diseases.—None.

Other diseases which have received special attention, e.g., locally contracted anthrax, epidemic jaundice, rheumatic fever, undulant fever, glandular fever, or psittacosis.—None.

Any local action taken in regard to the use of measles serum for prophylaxis or attenuation —No.

Discovery of and action taken in regard to (a) contacts, (b) return cases, (c) carrier cases (specify disease).—None.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations.—At which laboratory are specimens examined?—Wigan Infirmary.

Number and nature of specimens examined in 1937—Throat Swabs, 36; Sputum, 8; Blood, 3; Urine, 1; Urethral Smears, 5.

Number of times School Closure adopted during 1937.—None.

Number of reports made during 1937 under Article 17 (7) of Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935—Subjects of reports.—None.

Immunisation.—Specify any action taken to provide artificial immunisation against diphtheria and/or scarlet fever.—

(a) In hospitals, residential institutions or schools.—None.

(b) At special clinics or day schools.—None.

(c) Otherwise than (a) or (b).—None.

Is immunisation material supplied free to medical practitioners?—No.

No. of children inoculated—Against (a) scarlet fever.—Nil. (b) diphtheria.—Nil.

Have any post-Schick tests been undertaken?—No.

URBAN DISTRICT OF STANDISH.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1937.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	Total Cases at all Ages	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED YEARS											Total Deaths	Hospital	
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total Cases removed to Hospital from the district.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.
			1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over		
Smallpox ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	...	—
Diphtheria including Membranous Group ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	16	1	1	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis lethargica	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	33	1	1	1	1	14	3	—	3	3	3	3	—	—

Disinfection after infectious disease—

No. of houses disinfected during 1937.—8. Method (state disinfectant used).—Formaldehyde.

Are houses disinfected after (a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—Yes. (b) Measles.—On request.

If apparatus at hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of clothing, bedding, etc., of patients not removed to the hospital?—Yes.

Disinfestation—

What arrangements exist for the disinfestation of verminous, etc., persons?—None.

In how many instances has this been undertaken?—None.

The prevalence of any animal or insect pests such as rats, bugs, fleas, mosquitoes, etc., should be referred to and particulars given of the measures taken for their suppression.—Concerning the suppression of rats, advice and free rat poison is given on request. Where bugs or fleas are prevalent houses are disinfected with fumoids.

Cancer—

Any observations as to the prevalence of cancer?—No.

Particulars of any action taken to impart to the public information regarding cancer (i.e., facilities available, etc.)—None.

Particulars of any alteration, improvements or other developments in the availability of facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer in the area which have been effected during the year (whether by local authority or voluntary hospitals).—None.

Are the present facilities adequate —Yes.

Is any use made of facilities provided by the National Radium Centres?—Yes.

Any local investigation or action undertaken on the lines suggested in the series of Ministry's circulars on cancer?—No.

Prevention of Blindness—

Action taken (if any) under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.—None.

# TUBERCULOSIS.

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Age Periods		NEW CASES			DEATHS †		
		Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		
Years		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	...					1	
1-5	...						
5-10	...			3			
10-15	...		1				
15-20	...	2					
20-25	...	1	1				
25-35	...	1				1	
35-45	...	1					
45-55	...						
55-65	...	1					
65 and upwards	...	6	2	3	1	2	1
Totals	...	8		4		†	†



What is the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths?—Nil

In your opinion, is the notification of tuberculosis in your district efficient?—Yes.

Has any action been taken in cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify?—No.

Is there any evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district?—No.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

Any action taken under these Regulations relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade?—No.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, 1925 AND 1936.

Any action taken under Section 62, Public Health Act, 1925, or Section 172, Public Health Act, 1936.—None.

### 7.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

1. Is the Maternity and Child Welfare work carried out by the local authority or by the County Council.—No. By the County Council.

2. What arrangements have been made under the Public Health (Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926 for—

Consultants.—Panel at Manchester and Liverpool.

Bacteriological examinations.—Wigan Infirmary.

Hospital treatment.—Wigan Infirmary.

Provision of Nurses.—None.

3. What arrangements have been made under the Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, 1926, for—  
Hospital treatment.—None
4. Child Life Protection (under Part I of the Children Act, 1908, as amended by the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932).—  
Action taken.—None.
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Signed,

June, 1938.

R. J. ORMSBY, Medical Officer of Health.



